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ing a possible opportunity to get the benefit of well-considered and valuable advice, the Chief Justice remarked:

"Take these briefs and tell us what you think of this case."

It was just the mental athletics Judge Bleckley seemed to need. He took the briefs and other papers and read them carefully for one—two—three hours, occasionally consulting authorities, while the members of the court were occupied with other duties. Then he returned the papers to the Chief Justice, while the whole court looked up expectantly for his opinion.

"Gentlemen, this is one of that class of cases," Judge Bleckley said measuredly, "that, whichever way you decide it, you will decide it wrong."—N. Y. Evening Post.

An Honest Confession.—It is not necessary that a lawyer should be eloquent to win verdicts, but he must have the tact which turns an apparent defeat to his own advantage. One of the most successful of verdict winners was Sir James Scarlett. His skill in turning a failure into a success was wonderful. In a breach of promise case the defendant, Scarlett's client, was alleged to have been cajoled into an engagement by the plaintiff's mother. She was a witness in behalf of her daughter, and completely baffled Scarlett, who cross-examined her. But in his argument he exhibited his tact by this happy stroke of advocacy: "You saw, gentlemen of the jury, that I was but a child in her hands. What must my client have been."—Law Student's Journal (London).

A New York man has begun replevin suit in court for a swarm of bees. Secretary Shaw may have to begin some action like that to recover the bee that seems to have escaped from him.—Washington Post.

"The Constitution between Friends."—"What is the Constitution between friends?" has a companion piece now in "What's the truth between Senators?"—Wash. Post.

BOOK REVIEWS.

The Encyclopedic Digest of Virginia and West Virginia Reports. Volume III, "Commitments to Criminal Conversation." The Michie Company. Charlottesville, Va.

The third volume of this most excellent Digest (if it is exactly fair to class a work of such magnitude and broad treatment as a "Digest") has been received. An examination of more than unusual care has convinced the writer that the work gains in interest as it must necessarily gain in value with each volume. The work of more than one master hand is apparent in its arrangement and selection. Comparing it with some other works of a similar character, it is safe to say

that it contains at least one third more matter, than any other we have seen. The apparent care with which each topic is treated; the evident pains-taking arrangement of subject; the many sided way in which references are given, enabling the law on any topic to be quickly found, render it a work whose usefulness will gain in the using, and whose completion must necessarily be waited with impatience by those fortunate enough to possess it.

R. T. W. D.

Instructions to Juries in West Virginia Courts as Approved by the Supreme Court of Appeals of the State. Compiled and edited by B. H. Oxley of the Kanawha County Bar. Charleston, W. Va. Tribune Printing Company. 1906.

This book, while primarily intended for West Virginia lawyers, we think will prove of value not only in the state of Virginia, but in any other state in the Union in which the present illogical and antiquated method of giving instructions exists. The author has compiled from the reports of the State of West Virginia instructions which have been passed upon with approval by the supreme court. The book is divided into two parts—the first giving a list of cases, with an index of the points decided and then the legal principle governing the instructions as laid down by the West Virginia courts. Part second gives at length drafts of instructions on all law points which have been approved by the supreme court of West Virginia. We can very well see how such a book can be of great value in the course of trial, as the practitioner can find in it the draft of an instruction upon nearly all important legal points apt to arise frequently in courts. The work is well done and the arrangement of the book such as to facilitate a quick examination of the law of instructions, and a form for instructions approved by the court. We should think it would be almost invaluable to the West Virginia lawyer, and of no small value to the lawyers in our own state, as references are given in several instances to instructions which have been approved by the Virginia court and cited in the West Virginia cases.

Pomeroy's Equity Jurisprudence.—Our attention has been called to an error in the review published in our July number, of a treatise on "Equitable Remedies," by John Norton Pomeroy, Jr., published by the Bancroft-Whitney Co., and we take pleasure in stating that the original edition of "Pomeroy's Equity Jurisprudence" was in three volumes. These three volumes have been expanded into six. We may state that the review of the treatise on "Equitable Remedies" was not prepared by the present editors of the "Register." The price of the "Limitation of Taxing Power," by James N. Gray, published by the Bancroft-Whitney Co., reviewed in the July number, should have been six dollars and fifty cents ($6.50) and not six dollars ($6.00).